

Announcement of Global Undergraduate Exchange Program (UGRAD) 2012!

The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program offers scholarships for one semester or one academic year of study in the U.S. to undergraduate students from Laos for the academic year 2012-2013. Scholarships will be available in all academic fields of study.

The goal of the program is to provide a diverse group of emerging student leaders, from non-elite and under-represented groups in East Asia, with a substantive exchange experience at a U.S. college or university. Students who have studied abroad in other countries are not eligible for this program.

Eligibility:

Lao citizens, between 18-24 years old (must be 18 upon arrival in the U.S. or 24 or younger at the time of application);

Completed the first, second, or third year of an accredited undergraduate degree program;

Demonstrated proficiency in the English language with a minimum TOEFL score of 500 (61 TOEFL iBT or 173 TOEFL CBT);

Demonstrated leadership through academic work, community service, or extracurricular activities.

Application Package:

Initial registration: students will be requested to have proof of citizenship, university enrollment, a copy of their most recent transcripts, and an essay on why they wish to study in the U.S. (500 words maximum).

Qualified students will be invited to take an English screening test on November 26, 2011.

The initial registration package due on November 18, 2011. It must include:

--A register form; -- essay; -- copy of transcripts from university/college; -- copy of ID card.

The register form is available at the Information Resource Center, Public Diplomacy Section, U.S. Embassy. or can be downloaded at <http://laos.usembassy.gov>

Complete UGRAD application: Applicants who pass the English Screening Test (score 80/150) will be invited to fill out the application form of the Global Undergraduate Exchange Program; and to take the TOEFL (ITP) test on December 10, 2011. The deadline for completion of these applications is **December 15, 2011**.

A complete application package due on December 15, 2011. It must include:

___ Completed, signed Global Undergraduate Exchange Program application form.

___ Personal statement in English, 350-500 words, typed.*

___ If you have a passport, please submit a copy of the data/photo page.

___ Official transcripts for years of university study (with English translations). Please provide grade equivalences to U.S. University grading system.*

___ Official results of the national general secondary school leaving exam.*

___ Three letters of recommendation from teachers/professors, including one from the candidate's secondary level institution (with English translations).*

___ TOEFL®, ITP®, or other standardized English test score report, minimum 450, 500 or higher preferred.

___ Two photocopies of passport-size photo.

Please register at the Information Resource Center, Public Diplomacy Office, U.S. Embassy, Rue Bartholonie, That Dam. (near Talad Sao Mall) Vientiane, Laos.

For more information contact:

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CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION: November 18, 2011